

Docket No.: 50023-168

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of :
Tetsuroh NAKAMURA, et al. :
Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:
Filed: March 15, 2002 : Examiner:
For: IMAGE PROCESSOR, IMAGE READER AND FIBER LENS THEREOF, AND
METHOD OF MANUFACTURING FIBER LENS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Under "BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION" page 12, lines 2-9

(Amended) The fiber-bundle 144 is arranged to satisfy the following relation in order to prevent phenomena of the crosstalk and the flare. That is to say, as shown in Fig. 6, where one side length S of the fiber-bundle 144 is divided by the length T of the optical fiber 140, the value (S/T) is smaller than the tangent value $(\tan \theta)$ of the angular aperture θ that is the angle between the central axis U of the optical fiber 140 and the incident light V . The one side length S , the length T and the angular aperture θ are determined so as to satisfy the above relation.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 4 as following

Under "CLAIMS" page 21, claim 4


4. (Amended) A fiber lens according to claim 2, wherein the fiber-bundle has a side length of the fiber-bundle, a length of the optical fiber and an angular aperture that satisfy the relation that the side length of the fiber-bundle divided by the length of the optical fiber is smaller than a tangential value of the angular aperture of the optical fiber.

REMARKS

The above-referenced application was amended to correct errors in the specification and claim 4. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the amended specification and claim 4. Entry of this preliminary amendment is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 15, 2002

MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE SPECIFICATION AND CLAIM 4

Please amend the specification as follows:

(Amended) The fiber-bundle 144 is arranged to satisfy the following relation in order to prevent phenomena of the crosstalk and the flare. That is to say, as shown in Fig. 6, where one side length S of the fiber-bundle 144 is divided by the length T of the optical fiber 140, the value (S/T) is [larger] smaller than the tangent value (tan) of the angular aperture that is the angle between the central axis U of the optical fiber 140 and the incident light V. The [outside diameter] one side length S, the length T and the angular aperture are determined so as to satisfy the above relation.

Please amend claim 4 as following

4. (Amended) A fiber lens according to claim 2, wherein the fiber-bundle has a side length of the fiber-bundle, a length of the optical fiber and an angular aperture that satisfy the relation that the side length of the fiber-bundle divided by the length of the optical fiber is [larger] smaller than a tangential value of the angular aperture of the optical fiber.